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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1915.

PROPHYLACTIC DIVING

Annette Kellermann wishes swimming taught in the public schools. That is not so startling. Physical culture teachers in Washington have been urging the same thing. The diving lady herself is an excellent example of the beneficial effects of swimming. From a weak, sickly child she developed into a robust young woman by the aquatic route.

Aye, but here's the rub. Not only would she have us all doing Kellermann dives, but she would have both sexes wearing their Kellermanns, too! Chicago tried that, and the costume went the way of September Morn. Carter Harrison's esthetic sense could not justify such an approach, to the municipal bathing beaches, to the picture he barred from his shop windows.

If swimming develops the human form, not necessarily divine, but at least the human form Kellermann, as well as the health, then let us have the Kellermanns and more, or rather less, of them. Trixie Friganza, Marie Dressler, Emma Carus, and other ladies of generous embonpoint may drink, or bathe, in this modern miracle-fountain of Ponce de Leon. Every diver may become a warranted "perfect 36," and all else that Edna Ferber describes.

Does the diving, and now the dancing, Annette, really hold forth such a hope? If so one expects to see her first suffragist candidate for Congress, running on a diving platform.

GALLINGER HOSPITAL

President John Joy Edson, of the Board of Charities, wastes no words in the letter which he has sent to Senator Smith, urging the appropriation for a beginning on the new Gallinger Hospital. He devotes himself strictly to the briefest and most effective statement that could well be made, of the needs for the institution.

Washington Asylum Hospital is utterly unfit for the use made of it, by all accounts. Yet with a capacity for 180 patients it is caring for as high as 257 at one time.

The site of this institution is bad, and the proposal to convert wings erected for prison uses, into additional hospital quarters is indefensible. A hospital and a prison are two very different institutions, and they are not interchangeable—not in a generation in which there is as much intelligence as now prevails concerning proper care of people in hospitals. It would be a good deal like converting a penitentiary into a university—only worse.

The town has not hospital facilities adequate properly to care for the demands, and the municipal institution which Gallinger Hospital is designed to be is peculiarly needed. It ought not to be delayed on any plea for economy. It will be more economical to build it now, while costs of building are abnormally low; it will provide much-needed work for men who otherwise may be idle; and it will give the city an establishment that inevitably will have to be provided.

A REAL JUVENILE COURT

In many respects Washington's Juvenile Court has been a juvenile court in name only. Judge William H. De Lacy and Judge J. Wilmer Latimer both called attention to the effects of the law creating the court, which simply made of it a police court for the trial of juvenile offenders.

The commission working for more than a year to evolve a code which would embody the needs of such a court here, and the best in similar courts all over the country, has framed a measure which seems to cover most of the reforms advocated from time to time.

The report helps untangle the complex relations of the Juvenile Court and other bodies dealing with children in conflict with the court's authority. This was notably true of the Board of Children's Guardians, created before the court was organized, and without reference to such a court's existence. It gives the court greater latitude in dealing with juvenile transgressors, and permits proper probationary and educational measures. It relieves the boy who steals a newspaper or breaks a window of the stigma of a criminal record. It even provides that the names of those boys who have committed such offenses in the past shall be expunged from the criminal records. Such a record will handicap many of these boys throughout life. The law extends the jurisdiction

of the court to all persons under eighteen years. This is in line with the statutes governing such courts in progressive cities. Up to that age, at least, a judgment should be corrective rather than punitive. In a day when men like Henry Ford are making pleas for the hardened criminal of mature age, the community can afford to give the young offender every chance to become a law abiding citizen.

But the spirit in which the details of the proposed law was worked out is best expressed in the report which states that the proposed legislation "rests upon the broad principle that hereafter the child who finds his way into court is not to be regarded as a criminal, but rather as the ward of the nation, whose individual welfare coincides with the well-being of the state, and who is to be saved to it, rather than prosecuted by it."

Not a cent must be appropriated to put this new program into effect. The machinery is already provided. The efficiency of the court would be enhanced by the modern methods and operations provided in the bill. That the measure is not simply the dreams of theorists is best proven by a mention of the names of those who have been working on it—C. Bernard Flexner, Miss Julia Lathrop, the Rev. William J. Kerby, Walter C. Clephane and William H. Baldwin.

THE EXCISE BOARD

The general atmosphere, quite as much as the testimony developed at the Excise Board inquiry, is bad. The Senators conducting the affair as well as auditors from the outside, have been impressed all the way along that the general policy of the board has been to resolve all technicalities and uncertainties in favor of the saloons, and beyond that, to give encouragement to the business of devising uncertainties in order that they might be settled in favor of the saloons.

As much ingenuity as has been displayed on the side of the saloons, if exerted on the other side, by a board that wanted to drive saloons out of the town, would pretty nearly have accomplished that result. It would have been just as unfair to the law, just as misrepresentative of the law's intent, as has been the board's attitude of persistent favoritism toward the saloons.

The law was not made for the purpose of driving the saloons out of the town; and no more was it made in the expectation that it would be stretched at every point to cover the needs of the saloons. It was not made to be a disguised prohibition measure; neither was it intended to produce here the conditions of a wide-open city. It was intended to be administered equitably, fairly, and with simple common sense in mind.

People who don't want this town to go dry will do well to give their attention to what is happening in this Senate inquiry. This is no time to cover up; it is the time to let the whole truth become known. The liquor interest cannot afford to cast in its lot with a discredited Excise Board, and to try to protect such a body. Do so will strengthen the argument of prohibitionists that the liquor business is by instinct an outlaw and that regulation of it inevitably leads to this sort of performances. The liquor business has need to convince the community that it can be legitimate, decent and law-abiding; and the best friend of the local saloon men will be that one who will convince them that a too friendly and acquiescent excise authority is going, in the end, to hurt them most.

The powers of the Senate investigators are rather vague. They can report what they find, and they can be confidently expected to report in terms whose condemnation of recent conditions will wear no veil. But the Excise Board is appointed by the President and confirmed by the President. It is directly responsible only to the President, as the administrator of the laws. He can demand resignations, and if he doesn't get them can remove offending appointees.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE "CORNER"

Mr. Joseph Leiter has been telling some plain truths about the management of the wheat market. He has accumulated, at a very handsome expense, much information on the subject; and he defends dealing in futures, as most business men with the wider view of the subject do. In the matter of cotton, for instance, a very careful report from the Bureau of Corporations a few years ago made very clear that dealing in futures was necessary to steady market conditions and enable manufacturers of cotton goods to "hedge" against future conditions.

Mr. Leiter suspects that a large share of American wheat is raised at a loss; and there is an impressive array of expert agricultural testimony that bears him out. Wheat at \$1.50, with the producer getting the meager, is profitable in average circumstances; wheat at \$1 for a few minutes in a speculative pit, with

the former getting maybe 80 or 85 cents, is not very profitable on land as costly as the land which produces most of American wheat.

The thing about the "corner" that does damage is that as soon as the speculators start surrounding the visible supply, the farmers come to their rescue. The farmer is the real big speculator, taking him in the aggregate. He sees that a powerful group in the market or a war in Europe or something else is forcing prices up and up. He promptly gets into the game, and instead of selling, holds his wheat for a yet higher market. Thus the farmer is the most powerful re-enforcement to the speculator, because the farmer is the biggest speculator. Every farmer with a part of his wheat crop still in his bins is speculating in futures; he is betting that the wheat is going to be worth more later. Who shall say him nay? Who shall compel him to sell? And if he can't be compelled to sell at some fixed point, why may he—somebody else, with the price—buy?

It is not very apparent that the man who raised the wheat is entitled to deal in its futures to his heart's content, while another man may not do the same thing. A long line of experience has justified the general conclusion that corners commonly don't succeed, and that they are more likely to hurt the man in the corner than to profit him. Millers and provisioners require the privilege of dealing in futures, in order to protect their business. Bread would right now be costing more than it is costing, if millers had not been allowed to deal in futures; that is, to buy big stocks of wheat for delivery in future at a fixed price.

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SHIPOWNERS IN TOILS

In the Federal Court proceedings beginning in New York against German shipowners for carrying supplies beyond our ports and sea limits for delivery to German war vessels there are some fine points which always puzzle the inexperienced mind.

"Fourth—It has been suggested that the wings erected for a workhouse, with their massive walls and prison windows, must have been erected for the purpose of housing the German prisoners of war. It is reasonable to assume that when completed the suggestion of a converted prison could scarcely be removed from the minds of our unfortunate soldiers who are crowded into these quarters.

"Fifth—It has been suggested that the private hospitals in this city are amply equipped to take care of the sick poor, but the facts are that the Washington Asylum Hospital only cares for such patients as are not wanted in other institutions; indeed, during the present month not less than thirteen patients were removed to the Asylum Hospital upon request of these institutions.

"Sixth—In addition to the above, it is stated that the Asylum Hospital was erected to accommodate 120 patients. There are now 130 inmates, and we have a waiting list of 150 patients who should be in the hospital.

"This serious situation, which has been growing steadily worse from year to year, there are today 282 patients in urgent need of decent hospital facilities, and humanity demands the erection of proper shelter for at least 300 patients. Such a building should be planned with a view to making future additions as the exigencies of war demand."

The distinction can be even more subtle. It is possible, legally and properly, for an American shipper to deliver supplies by rail within twenty-four hours for an English battleship in a Canadian port. It is not legal and proper for the same supplies to be billed to Havana, diverted eastward outside the three-mile limit, and put aboard the same warship at sea within twenty-four days.

More than that; a contraband cargo of coal or other supplies may be shipped legally and properly from New York for Liverpool, say, intercepted by a German warship and transferred to her hold; and no international question arises.

But there can be a false situation deliberately conspired along those lines to involve a neutral government. Indeed, a shipmaster who sailed from the Pacific coast and reported that his vessel was captured and his cargo seized by German cruisers was charged with deliberately putting up the job, thereby implicating the good faith of this government in so far as it gave the vessel clearance and otherwise officially sanctioned, though unwittingly, her operations.

No doubt in the cases now coming up in New York the prosecution will be maintained against ships and shipowners, not for taking out contraband goods—something that may be done with perfect right—but for compromising the neutrality of the United States Government by palming off false bills, obtaining fraudulent clearances and otherwise evading international rules and defying the laws of the United States.

Germania Club Holds Fifth Informal Smoker

The Germania Club held the fifth of a series of informal smokers last night at Loebman's. Dr. Harry Selhausen spoke on Germany's contributions to medical science.

The next meeting was announced for March 26, when Dr. E. A. Crampton will speak on "The Effect of the War on the Chemical Industry of the United States."

Carp Raked Out of River.

BLIET, Wis., Feb. 27.—Thousands of fish brought down with high water in the Rock river drowned helplessly about, apparently stunned by striking the dam here. Hundreds of carp were raked out by fishermen and hauled away in wagons, carts and trucks.

GIVES SIX REASONS FOR CITY HOSPITAL

John Joy Edson, in Letter to Senator Smith, Declares Situation Is Serious Here.

In a letter sent to Senator John W. Smith, of Maryland, in charge of the District appropriation bill in the Senate, John Joy Edson, president of the Board of Charities, gives six reasons for an immediate start on a municipal hospital for Washington.

Mr. Edson declares the situation to be serious, and is growing steadily worse, and there is need of a municipal hospital to take care of 300 "free" patients aside from those taken care of at other hospitals. Mr. Edson's letter follows:

"Dear Sir:—As president of the Board of Charities, in the interest of suffering humanity, I deem it my duty to invite your attention to the imperative need of making a beginning toward the construction of a Municipal Hospital, and in doing so I speak for the indigent sick who are unable to speak for themselves. The situation is serious, and is growing steadily worse, and there is need of a municipal hospital to take care of 300 'free' patients aside from those taken care of at other hospitals. Mr. Edson's letter follows:

"First—The present buildings of the Washington Asylum Hospital are pronounced by all who visit them as unfit for hospital purposes.

"Second—The buildings afford accommodations for 120 patients, and yet as many as 257 patients have been crowded into these quarters.

"Third—It has been suggested that the wings erected for a workhouse, with their massive walls and prison windows, must have been erected for the purpose of housing the German prisoners of war. It is reasonable to assume that when completed the suggestion of a converted prison could scarcely be removed from the minds of our unfortunate soldiers who are crowded into these quarters.

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"Fifth—In addition to the above, it is stated that the Asylum Hospital was erected to accommodate 120 patients. There are now 130 inmates, and we have a waiting list of 150 patients who should be in the hospital.

"This serious situation, which has been growing steadily worse from year to year, there are today 282 patients in urgent need of decent hospital facilities, and humanity demands the erection of proper shelter for at least 300 patients. Such a building should be planned with a view to making future additions as the exigencies of war demand."

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PROGRAM (For Today and Tomorrow.)

Meeting of fraternal, social, and other organizations of the National Capital, and the most important events scheduled for today, tomorrow, and Saturday, are set forth in this column. The reader may refer to this column for the time and place of happenings in Washington today and tomorrow.

Today.

Luncheon, Builders and Manufacturers' Exchange, 619 Fourteenth street northwest, 1 p. m.

Country meeting, American soldiers and sailors of the civil and Spanish wars, Service Club, 1347 Pennsylvania avenue, 8 p. m.

Dinner, District Dental Association, Elliott Hotel, 7:30 p. m.

Harquet, Trowel Club, F. A. A. M., of the Department of the Interior, Elliott Hotel, 7:30 p. m.

Address, Commissioner Brown, before Mass. Club, Luther Place Memorial Church, 8 p. m.

Meeting, Federation of Women's Clubs, Oak Room, Hamilton, 7 p. m.

Dinner, Farmers' Club of Interior Department, 7:30 p. m.

Meeting, Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity, New Elliott, 12:45 p. m.

Meeting, Federation of Women's Clubs, lecture hall, Public Library, 10 a. m.

Meeting, Washington and Annapolis Association, study room, Public Library, 3 p. m.

Old Fellows—Canton Washington, No. 4, Patriarchs Militant, 7:30 p. m.

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U. S. Leader in Trade With Latin America

Fallacy That Goods Made in This Country Do Not Stand Well, Is Exploded by Study of the Facts.

By JUDSON C. WELLIVER.

Whence comes the widely-accepted notion that the United States has but a meager and rather discreditable share of the trade of Latin America?

The figures show the contrary. Likewise, what is the origin of the impression that American goods do not stand well in South America?

FACTS ARE TO THE CONTRARY.

The facts are exactly to the contrary. These questions have been asked by some of the experts in international trade relations, and their attempts to reach satisfactory answers have developed some most interesting facts concerning the present status and the future prospects for this commerce.

In 1913—which, by the way, is going to be the basis of calculations on this subject for a long time to come—the United States exported more than half of its goods to Latin America, and more than half of the goods of Latin America came from the United States. The United States exported more than half of its goods to Latin America, and more than half of the goods of Latin America came from the United States.

Not only this, but in the ten States of Mexico, Central America, and the West Indies, the United States actually supplied more than half of the goods of the region. The United States exported more than half of its goods to Latin America, and more than half of the goods of Latin America came from the United States.

The figures for this group of countries are most impressive. In 1913, the United States exported more than half of its goods to Latin America, and more than half of the goods of Latin America came from the United States. The United States exported more than half of its goods to Latin America, and more than half of the goods of Latin America came from the United States.

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MAIL BAG

(From The Times Readers.)

Communications to the Mail Bag must be written on one side of the paper only; must not exceed 200 words in length; and must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender. The publication of letters in the Mail Bag does not mean the endorsement by The Washington Times of the opinions of the writers. The Mail Bag is a space for the free expression of the opinions of the citizens of Washington can argue most questions.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

Opportunities to Become Rifle Shots.

In answer to communication of E. S. M., in a recent issue of The Times, as to "means whereby all citizens may become marksmen or sharpshooters,"

and provide throughout the United States, near hamlets, villages, and cities rifle ranges, I take the liberty of advising the gentleman that there already exist splendid opportunities for men to indulge in rifle shooting. The Government will furnish arms to responsible citizens, and the National Rifle Association will furnish arms to responsible citizens, and the National Rifle Association will furnish arms to responsible citizens.

Any man or woman with average eyes and nerves, who is not a boomer or a clear-headed man, can in a few days become a rifle shot. I know of no organization in the District National Guard which qualified sixty-two sharpshooters, the entire membership of the National